

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-279V

Filed: May 31, 2017

UNPUBLISHED

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PATRICIA VILLANO,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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Damages Decision Based on Proffer;  
Influenza Vaccine ("Flu Vaccine");  
Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine  
Administration ("SIRVA");  
Special Processing Unit ("SPU")

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*Ronald Homer, Conway, Homer & Chin-Caplan, P.C., Boston, MA, for petitioner.  
Ryan Pyles, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

### **DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES<sup>1</sup>**

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On February 29, 2016, Patricia Villano ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the "Vaccine Act" or "Program"). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA") after receiving the influenza vaccine on November 11, 2014. Petition at 1, ¶ 2. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On July 29, 2016, the undersigned issued a ruling on entitlement, finding petitioner entitled to compensation. (ECF No. 15). On May 31, 2017, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") indicating petitioner should be awarded \$135,000.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$135,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Patricia Villano.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**  
Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

PATRICIA VILLANO,

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 16-279V

Chief Special Master Nora Beth Dorsey  
ECF

**RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION**

On July 29, 2016, respondent filed his Rule 4(c) Report, in which he recommended that the Court find petitioner entitled to compensation, and also on July 29, 2016, the Court entered its Ruling on Entitlement, finding petitioner entitled to compensation. Respondent now proffers that petitioner receive an award of a lump sum of **\$135,000.00** in the form of a check payable to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner is entitled.<sup>1</sup>

Petitioner agrees with the proffered award of \$135,000.00.<sup>2</sup>

Respectfully submitted,

CHAD A. READLER  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

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<sup>1</sup> Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future pain and suffering, and future lost wages.

<sup>2</sup> This proffer does not include any award for attorneys' fees and costs that may be awarded pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(e).

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO  
Acting Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

CATHARINE E. REEVES  
Deputy Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN  
Assistant Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

s/ RYAN D. PYLES  
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Dated: May 31, 2017